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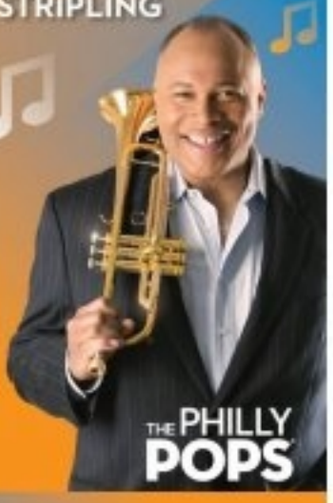
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STAR POWER

Your complete guide to this weekend's Oscars ceremony.

iSTOCK | GETTY IMAGES

Where to see Oscar-nominated flicks in Philly theaters. 8

Predicting all the 2019 Oscar winners. 10

'Fashion Police' star talks Oscars red carpet. 11

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WKND

WELCOME TO WKND

MATT JUUL, NATIONAL FEATURES EDITOR

It's time to roll out the red carpet, because the Academy Awards are back in the spotlight this weekend. Over the past year, there's been no shortage of amazing performances and groundbreaking films that have dominated the silver screen, and now it's time to honor these Oscar-worthy achievements. Ahead of Sunday's big show, we've put together a comprehensive guide to the 2019 ceremony. From winner predictions to breaking down some of the most talked-about films and controversies, here's what you need to know.

TWEETS

GETTY

SIMPLE CREATURES

mark hoppus.
@markhoppus

Philadelphia may very well be the best sports city in the US. Think of it: you have 1) The Eagles 2) @GrittyNHL 3) the one time I went to a Phillies game and I swear to God they drove this small tank onto the field and cannoned hot dogs into the crowd.

YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this weekend? We've got you covered.

FOOD & DRINKS

Kennett Winterfest

Although the weather might not be pleasant, Kennett is kicking off its outdoor beer fest with a bang. Guests can bundle up and enjoy delicious and refreshing brews from 60 unique craft breweries, indulge in tasty bites and enjoy live music from Afrobear. All proceeds from Winterfest will directly benefit Historic Kennett Square. **Feb. 23, 12:30-4 p.m., 600 S. Broad St., Kennett Square, $15-$60, kennettwinterfest.com**

Welcome Winter Polenta Dinner

In traditional Italian culture, families gather around the dinner table to celebrate the first snowfall of winter by indulging in polenta with ragu served from a huge wooden board. The Cicala Family is opening up their home to keep the tradition going and invites Philadelphians to come out and enjoy mouthwatering dishes such as Bruschetta Misti, Escarole e Fagioli, Salumi & Formaggio, Zeppole and much more. The dinner is BYOB. **Feb. 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Cicala Family Residence, 1211 West Ritner St., $75, eventbrite.com/welcome-winter-polenta-dinner-tickets**

Bloody Mary Jazz Brunch

The David Pearl and Friends Trio will set the mood with their smooth jazz tunes as guests indulge in delicious brunch dishes. Menu items include duck wings and waffles, jerk chicken and grits, sweet potato hash, a biscuit sandwich with scrambled eggs, crispy bacon, chipotle aioli and much more. To add to the already exciting brunch is a gourmet Bloody Mary bar flooded with unique and fun accouterments such as cornbread cubes, chicken sausages, bread-and-butter pickles and more. **Feb. 24, reservations available, Square 1682, 121 S. 17th St., square1682.com**

GOING OUT

GETTY IMAGES

Mummers Mardi Gras Festival

Celebrate with the Mummers and their impressive repertoire of string bands as they celebrate Mardi Gras, Philly style. The event will feature live performances, food trucks, a photo booth, face painting, axe throwing, an inflatable kids zone, umbrella making, contests and much more. **Feb. 23, 1-5 p.m., 2300 Arena, 2300 S. Swanson St., $9-$24, 2300arena.com**

MUSIC

Adeline at MilkBoy

The French-Caribbean vixen and lead singer of Escort is coming to the City of Brotherly Love for an intimate performance at MilkBoy. Adeline has performed at Coachella, Montreal Jazz Fest and Afropunk while also recently appearing on "Good Day New York" and Viceland's "Performances." The songstress will be performing hits from her self-titled debut album, which she wrote and plays bass on. **Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m., MilkBoy, 1100 Chestnut St., $10-$12, milkboyphilly.com**

GOING OUT

Party for the Market

Reading Terminal Market is hosting this unforgettable evening in celebration of the historic venue. Guests can indulge in delicious food and desserts from over 30 vendors, four open bars, live music and dancing, casino games, a cabaret and cocktail lounge, a silent auction and much more. **Feb. 23, 7:30-11:30 p.m., Reading Terminal Market, 51 N. 12th St., $95-$200, readingterminalmarket.org**

COMEDY

Seth Meyers

The "SNL" alum and late-night host is hitting the stage at the Keswick Theatre for one night only. The Emmy Award winner will be performing his smash-hit stand-up during an evening full of laughs and excitement this weekend, and all Philadelphians are invited to join in on the fun. **Feb. 22, 7-11 p.m., Keswick Theatre, 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside, $39-$59,keswicktheatre.com**

FAMILY

Doughnut-making Class

Federal Donuts is hosting this tasty event at the Free Library of Philadelphia. Families with kiddos from ages 5 to 12 will love making their own doughnuts from scratch and learning which ingredients work and how the tasty treats are fried. Guests act as pastry chefs for the day. From the dough to the sprinkles to the glaze, every part is delicious and completely homemade. **Feb. 23, 2-4 p.m., Free Library of Philadelphia Culinary Literacy Center, 1901 Vine St., $12, freelibrary.org**

Family Day at Barcade

Bring the whole family to Barcade this weekend for their fun-filled family day. Enjoy a day filled with classic arcade games, bonding time and plenty of beer (for the parents, of course). There will also be a special kids menu during their family day and many more surprises in store. **Feb. 24, noon-5 p.m., Barcade, 1114 Frankford Ave., barcadephiladelphia.com**

SHOPPING

Philly Flea Market

This weekend, head to Philly's largest vintage and antique flea market to find some hidden treasures and unique items. The flea market will feature over 75 vendors showcasing antiques, collectibles, vintage jewelry and clothing, furniture, artwork and much more. There is plenty of space for parking, a food court and admission is free. **Feb. 23, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sheet Metal Workers Union Auditorium, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., philafleamarkets.org** MOLLY GIVEN

The big screen will take over the small screen this weekend thanks to the 91st Academy Awards ceremony. While all eyes will be on Hollywood this Sunday, there are plenty of other awesome things to tune in to before and after the big show. Here's what to watch on TV this weekend. **MATT JUUL**

"DOOM PATROL"

Feb. 22 on DC Universe

One of the weirdest shows to hit the small screen, DC Universe's "Doom Patrol" has proven to be an unlikely hit for the budding streaming service. The series centers around a collection of misfit superheroes who must stop a wacky, mind-melting villain named Mr. Nobody (Alan Tudyk). Friday's episode 2 will see the introduction of the fan-favorite character Cyborg, played by Joivan Wade.

"PADDLETON"

NETFLIX

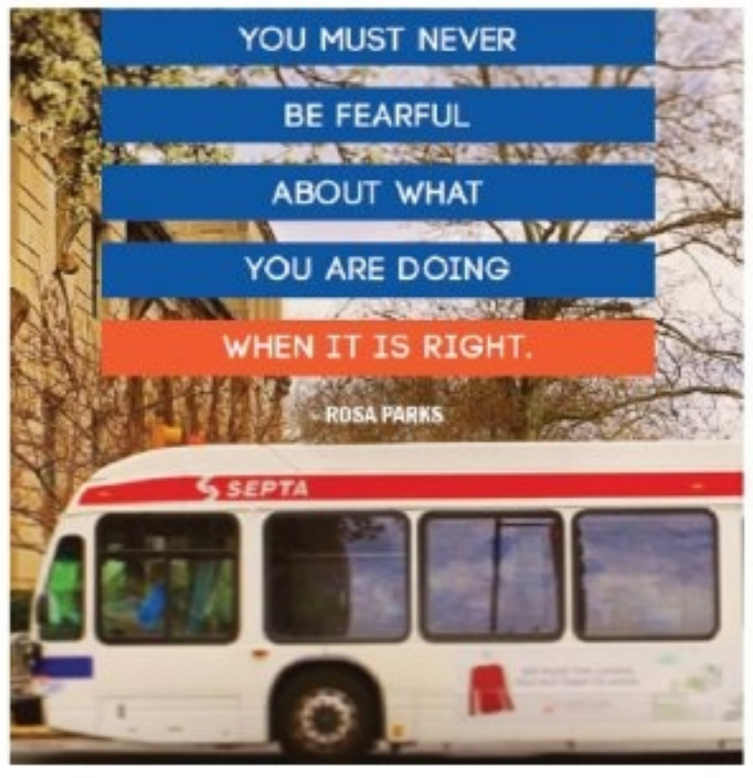
Feb. 22 on Netflix

After carving out a career as one of the nation's most beloved comedic performers, Ray Romano has quietly been dipping his toes into other genres in recent years. The "Everybody Loves Raymond" star gets to show off more of his dramatic chops with "Paddleton," a darker comedy about two neighbors who embark on an emotional roller coaster after one of the friends is diagnosed with terminal cancer. The film also stars Mark Duplass.

91ST ACADEMY AWARDS

Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. on ABC

This year's Oscars will be an interesting ceremony, to say the least. Sunday's show will be the first one in nearly three decades to not have a celebrity host on hand, thanks to the controversy with Kevin Hart, which forced the comic to step down from hosting duties. Rumor has it that even the cast of "Avengers" will be on hand to dole out trophies.



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Let Them Eat Cake takes place on Feb. 24. PUNCH MEDIA

A slice of sweetness

Let Them Eat Cake is this Sunday, Feb. 24.

MOLLY GIVEN

If you go:

Feb. 24, 6-8 p.m.,
Loews Hotel's Millennium Ballroom, 1200 Market St.,
$25-$45, varietyphila.org

Who wouldn't want to eat copious amounts of delicious and unique cake while simultaneously helping a great cause? The highly sought-after foodie event Let Them Eat Cake allows guests to do just that and much more all in one amazing evening. This year's Let Them Eat Cake extravaganza will feature 22 competing cakes, plenty of refreshing beverages (both adult- and kid-friendly), special celebrity guests, live music, tasty bites and oh-so much more.

The 2019 edition of Let Them Eat Cake is benefiting Variety, the children's charity of the Delaware Valley, where teens and young adults with disabilities learn real job skills. "Variety Works is a vocational training service for young adults with disabilities. The whole purpose is to train the students and coach them at their position until they eventually have sustainable employment," says Harry Giordano, Variety's development director.

"The chefs take a lot of liberty and have a lot of fun and do incredible work. There are cakes that move, cakes that light up and cakes that speak to you."

Harry Giordano

Aside from benefitting a worthy cause, the event is an evening filled with fun, excitement and plenty of frosting. Top chefs compete every year in different categories to win prizes for their edible masterpieces. "The chefs take a lot of liberty and have a lot of fun and do incredible work. There are cakes that move, cakes that light up and cakes that speak to you," says Giordano.

Judging the tasty trial is a set of acclaimed judges including White House Pastry Chef Colette Peters, a surprise player from the Philadelphia Eagles and Marnie Manko from Philadelphia Style. The celebrity judges are joined by culinary professionals and folks of the industry, all of them there to determine this year's Best in Show winner based on taste, theme, aesthetic, creativity and use of ingredients. Additional awards are given for Best-Tasting Cake, Best Design, Best Theme, Best Student Entry and Audience Choice Award.

Aside from the sweet treats there will also be savory bites available to munch on, plenty of adult beverages (Hendricks gin, Flying Fish beer, BlueBird Distilling vodka, wine and much more) and a coffee cart offering Perrier and treats served up by a few of the teens and young adults in the Variety program.

But that's not all. "While you're getting your food on, you're also going to be seeing some amazing things happen in that ballroom," says Giordano. Throughout the night there will be plenty of heartwarming surprises that will truly showcase what this incredible event is all about. "It's all going to a good cause and 100 percent of proceeds go to our kids. It started with just a few chefs, but as the years have gone on, it has morphed into a big foodie event. It's exploded and I'm grateful for it."

What's the icing on top of this already sweet cake? Guests will receive take-home containers to load up with cake and other treats, so the fun doesn't have to stop once the event is over.

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Where to eat in *Philly* this weekend

Philly's top picks for dining, drinking and enjoying. **MOLLY GIVEN**

Parc offers incredible French cuisine PARC

Revolution House
The multistory venue pays homage to the City of Brotherly Love's rich historic roots with an atmosphere that steps back in time. RH boasts unique touches that makes this Old City eatery truly stand out, plus the menu is nothing short of impressive. Delicious dishes include short rib risotto, Southern-herb fried chicken, smokey mac and cheese, firecracker shrimp and much more. Revolution House also has a vast cocktail, wine, spirit and beer selection, plus a mouthwatering brunch menu available on the weekends. *200 Market St., revolutionhouse.com*

Cheu Fishtown
This eatery has not only phenomenal food, but also a one-of-a-kind atmosphere that allows guests to let their hair down and just enjoy their meal. No fancy frills or upscale notions, just fantastic food and memories you will not forget. Menu items include pastrami bing buns, green curry chicken wontons, red beet tartare, black garlic wings, coconut curry ramen, koji cabbage and much more. In the mood for some cocktails? You're in luck; Cheu Fishtown has a tasty repertoire with selections including a spiked juice, Shochu Spritz, Old-Fashionably Late (made with Japanese whiskey), Plunket on Ice, and H.B.I.C. *1416 Frankford Ave., cheufishtown.com*

Parc
Parc brings the classicly elegant French bistro vibe to the City of Brotherly Love in a beautiful way. This grand and sophisticated eatery is gorgeous from the inside out. The space is smartly stylish yet inviting, and when the weather gets warm guests can dine outside with a perfect view of Rittenhouse Park. Everything about Parc feels like a treat, especially the food. Menu items include duck l'orange, beef Bourguignon, trout amandine, steak au poivre, seared scallops, spaghetti Bolognese, veal piccata and much more. Parc also offers an impressive and mouthwatering selection for lunch, brunch, breakfast, midday treats and dessert. *227 S. 18th St., parc-restaurant.com*

Tequilas
Tequilas boasts authentic Mexican cuisine, a colorful and chic atmosphere and plenty of well, tequila. It's upscale yet fun, but the food is truly the showstopper. Incredible dishes include a gourmet selection of empanadas, ceviche, Camarones Rellenos, carne asada, oysters Cancun, mole poblano, tres leches cake, churros and much, much more. Tequilas also has an impressive happy hour menu that highlights their amazing selection of tequila, mezcal and other spirits. If you yearn for a traditional Mexican margarita or sangria cocktail, Tequilas should certainly be your first pick. This Center City hotspot is also open for lunch. *1602 Locust St., tequilasphilly.com*

The Love
The Love is truly a gem right in the heart of Center City. Anyone can stop in to this hotspot eatery and immediately leave the worries of the day behind while you dine at this chic and comfortable spot. The Love features a total of 100 seats split between the main dining and bar areas, outdoor seating along 18th Street and an upper-level loft with a 20-person communal table leaving plenty of space to indulge in their delicious cuisine and impressive drink selection. Menu items include butternut squash and Honeycrisp apple soup, exotic mushroom toast, Tuscan black kale risotto, maple salmon, Bohemian fish curry, half rack o' ribs and much more. The Love is also open for lunch and brunch on the weekends. *130 S. 18th St., theloverestaurant.com*

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Eat around the street

East Passyunk Avenue Restaurant Week starts Feb. 25

MOLLY GIVEN

East Passyunk Avenue Restaurant Week is just around the corner, and many Philadelphians are gearing up to head to the notable and delicious eateries that line Passyunk Ave. The popular area has grown exponentially over the years and the restaurant choices have also bloomed into a culinary mecca. There is something for everyone—even the pickiest of eaters—and East Passyunk Avenue Restaurant Week highlights just that.

Top spots are offering indulgent three-course prix fixe lunches and/or dinners (ranging from $15-$35) during its seventh annual restaurant week. EPRW runs from Feb. 25-March 8, leaving plenty of time to check out multiple spots (note that some eateries will only be offering their restaurant week menus on certain days). Passyunk wasn't named one of the "Top 10 Foodie Streets in America" by Food & Wine magazine on a whim; there truly is so much this street has to offer—especially during this week.

Barcelona Wine Bar
This hotspot offers amazing ambiance both inside and outside with its extensive dining room, bar and patio area. EPRW menu items include Jamon and Manchego croquetas, spicy eggplant caponata, Little Neck clams and white beans, crudo and much more.
1709 E. Passyunk Ave., barcelonawinebar.com

Mamma Maria Ristorante
Mamma Maria takes old school Italian cuisine up a notch, and for EPRW it's setting the bar even higher. Enticing menu options include pork loin medallions, eggplant alla parmigiana, flounder sautéed in lemon sauce, antipasto and much more. As a bonus Mamma Maria also offers a tasty selection of desserts, all are homemade and change daily. *1637 E. Passyunk Ave., mammamariaphilly.com*

The Palace of Indian
This authentic Indian eatery is offering EPRW deals for both lunch and dinner and guests can enjoy delicious and enticing dishes while overlooking the Singing Fountain all week long. Menu items include mixed pakora, vegetable samosa, garlic and cheese naan, onion naan plus your choice of a veggie, chicken or lamb entree. *1533 South 11th St., palaceofindian.com*

Izumi
This high-end Japanese cuisine eatery was named one of the "Best of Philly" spots for a reason. Its East Passyunk Avenue Restaurant Week selection cannot be missed with mouthwatering menu items such as crab and shiitake spring rolls, braised pork belly with Japanese risotto, an Izumi sushi sampler with the chef's selection of the day and much more. *1601 E. Passyunk Ave., izumi-philly.com*

POPE
This neighborhood bar is one of Passyunk's best-kept secrets having one of the most extensive beer selections in town. However, it's the EPRW menu that will truly impress you. Delicious dishes include bratwurst with pierogies and sauerkraut, meatloaf with mashed potatoes and spinach, grilled vegetable Napolean and much more. *1501 E. Passyunk Ave., pubonpassyunkeast.com*

Will BYOB
This award-winning hotspot knows how to wow its guests, each plate is put together beautifully and the flavors always surpass what you expect. Will's EPRW selection also knocks it out of the park with options such as roasted Pennsylvania trout, porcini and red wine braised short rib, escargot, banana pot de creme and much more. *1911 E. Passyunk Ave., willbyob.com*

For a full list of restaurants and to learn more about East Passyunk Avenue Restaurant Week visit eastpassyunkrestaurantweek.com

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4 Fun things to do in AC this weekend

Hit the slots, attend a throwback concert and more **MOLLY GIVEN**

Joan Jett & The Blackhearts hit the stage in AC this weekend GETTY

Philadelphia has a lot to offer, but so does the exciting coastal town Atlantic City. The city has grown exponentially over the past few years and is no longer just a casino or beach destination, it's a place to escape and indulge in fun activities and escapades. Here are four fun things to do in Atlantic City this weekend.

Festival of Wines
The Tropicana Casino and Resort is hosting this wine-filled extravaganza for one day only. At Wines From Around the World guests can indulge in over 150 samples of some of the most popular wines on the planet. The festival features wineries from the United States, NewtZealand, Italy, France, Argentina, Uruguay, Australia, South Africa and more. The festival also features artisan crafts, tasty treats, live music, a souvenir glass upon entry and plenty of bottled wine available for purchase. *Feb. 23, 12 p.m.-6 p.m., Tropicana Resort, 2831 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ, $30, tropicana.net*

Joan Jett & the Blackhearts
Joan Jett & The Blackhearts are hitting the stage in Atlantic City this weekend to perform some old favorites and classic hits. Guests can rock out to smash hits such as "I Love Rock and Roll." "I Hate Myself For Loving You," "Dirty Deeds," "Cherry Bomb" and more while in Hard Rock's Sound Waves venue. This incredible show will only be in Atlantic City for one weekend, tickets are available on the official website. A perfect show if you are looking for fun things to do in Atlantic City this weekend. *Feb. 22, 8 p.m., Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 1000 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, $55-$95, hardrockhotels.com*

Flashback Fridays
Flashback Fridays is a series of free concerts held by the Golden Nugget all centered around throwback hits that still get everyone up and dancing. This week the concert will feature music from The Allman Brothers performed by the hit tribute band Friends of the Allman Brothers. Flashback Fridays also features drink specials and an air guitar contest that gives guests the chance to win an electric guitar from Guitar Center in Mays Landing. *Feb. 22, 9 p.m., Golden Nugget, 600 Huron Ave, Atlantic City, free, goldennugget.com*

Slotfest East
Grab your lucky trinkets and get your gambling shoes on because Slotfest East is this weekend. The fun starts at the opening night cocktail reception where guests can meet and mingle with The Big Jackpot crew and Bomb Squad Members while sipping on refreshing beverages and entering in a raffle. All guests will also receive a complimentary t-shirt and swag bag on opening night as well. Then its time to slot; the check-in and buy-in for the group pull will take place during the cocktail party in Ocean Meeting Room A. Buy-in is $100 per spot and you may purchase additional entries in multiples of $100. The fun continues on through the night and next day with different group pull activities. A great even if you are looking for fun things to do in Atlantic City this weekend. *Feb. 22-23, times vary, Ocean Resort Casino, 500 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, prices vary, theoceanac.com*

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The Academy Awards takes place Feb. 24. GETTY

Where to watch Oscar-nominated movies around Philly

Catch all the Best Picture noms before Sunday night.
MOLLY GIVEN

"Bohemian Rhapsody"
Best Picture, Lead Actor, Best Sound Mixing, Best Film Editing, Best Sound Editing
The epic biopic about Queen and frontman Freddie Mercury follows the rise of the iconic band and the setbacks they endured while breaking the mold in the music world. The film not only follows the talent of the band, but also the story behind their breakup, reconciliation, Mercury's AIDS diagnosis and how they managed to pull off one of the greatest performances in the history of rock music.
Where to watch it in Philly: Philadelphia Film Center, Reel Cinemas Narberth 2, AMC Cherry Hill 24 and Cinemark 16

"BlacKkKlansman"
Best Picture, Best Director, Best Supporting Actor, Best Original Music Score, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Film Editing
Spike Lee's latest masterpiece follows the story of an undercover cop infiltrating the KKK in the 1970s. The incredible story is based on true events about Colorado Springs detective Ron Stallworth. Stallworth was the first African-American detective to serve in the Colorado Springs Police Department and his story shines a light on an extremely tumultuous period in history.
Where to watch it in Philly: Cinemark 16

"Black Panther"
Best Picture, Best Original Music Score, Best Costume Design, Best Production Design, Best Sound Editing, Best Sound Mixing
"Black Panther" has already made history this awards season being the first superhero movie to be nominated for Best Picture at the historic awards ceremony. "Black Panther" also won Best Cast in a Motion Picture at the SAG awards (also was a first for superhero flicks) and numerous other notable awards at the People's Choice, Critics Choice, the BAFTAs and more.
Where to watch it in Philly: Regal Cinemas at the Moorestown Mall and United Artists King of Prussia.

"Green Book"
Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Original Screenplay, Best Film Editing
"Green Book" follows the story of Dr. Don Shirley, a world-class African-American pianist who sets out on tour in the deep south in the 1960s. Shirley hires Tony Lip, a tough and fast-talking Italian-American from the Bronx to drive and accompany him on his tour through the US. The two develop an unlikely bond during a time in history where racism and segregation threaten to tear their friendship apart.
Where to watch it in Philly: PFS Roxy Theater and AMC Cherry Hill 24

"The Favourite"
Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Director, Best Supporting Actress, Best Original Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Costume Design, Best Film Editing, Best Production Design
"The Favourite" has surpassed many other films having a total of eight nominations just from Academy Awards. This 18th century period drama follows Queen Anne and her close friend Lady Sarah. Lady Sarah takes a new servant Abigail under her wing and a unique friendship blooms. Both Emma Stone and Rachel Weisz both earned Best Supporting Actress nods for their roles in the film.
Where to watch it in Philly: Landmark's Ritz Five and AMC Cherry Hill 24

"A Star Is Born"
Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Sound Mixing
"A Star Is Born" blew up in the film and music world with hit songs and a huge fan base after just its first weekend in theaters. The classic story has been remade a few times throughout the years and Bradley Cooper's version may be the first to win the ultimate prize in Hollywood.
Where to watch it in Philly: Regal Cinemas at the Moorestown Mall and United Artists King of Prussia

"Roma"
Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Director, Best Supporting Actress, Best Foreign Language Film, Best Original Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Sound Mixing, Best Sound Editing, Best Production Design
"Roma" has certainly stunned many, Netflix's Academy Award-nominated film has captured the hearts of audiences all around the world. "Roma" is the most nominated film in the category for Best Picture receiving 10 nominations. *Where to watch it in Philly: ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks*

All the female directors who should've been nominated for an Oscar

Director Marielle Heller deserved a nod for "Can You Ever Forgive Me?", starring Melissa McCarthy. GETTY IMAGES

There were plenty of oversights.
GREGORY WAKEMAN

The five men up for Best Director at this year's Academy Awards are all worthy nominees. To even suggest that Alfonso Cuaron ("Roma"), Adam McKay ("Vice"), Spike Lee ("BlacKkKlansman") Pawel Pawlikowski ("Cold War") or Yorgos Lanthimos ("The Favourite") should be omitted would be cruel.

But in 2019, the only thing more depressing than knowing just five females have ever been nominated for a Best Director Oscar is the fact that Kathryn Bigelow ("The Hurt Locker") is the only woman to have actually won the accolade. Many hoped that Greta Gerwig's deserved nomination for "Lady Bird" last year would have started a new trend of women being rightfully recognized in the category. Especially because so many women have made so many formidable films over the last 12 months.

Some of these movies, however, were in genres that the Academy has ignored for decades, even when the films have been directed by men. So it's no surprise that they failed to recognize Susan Johnson for "To All the Boys I've Loved Before," Claire Scanlon for "Set It Up" and Anne Fletcher for "Dumplin'." But Kay Cannon's hysterical direction of "Blockers," which could have easily deflated had she not managed to eke out terrific performances from the eclectic older cast and the younger half of the ensemble, would have been a worthy, if admittedly shocking choice.

At the same time, it's a bit disappointing that "On the Basis of Sex"'s Mimi Leader and "Mary Queen of Scots"' Josie Rourke didn't receive nominations, even though both films, which revolve around Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Queen Elizabeth, respectively, seemed like Oscar fodder.

You can understand why the Academy ignored all of the above. But there are three directors who should feel genuinely annoyed at being overlooked by the Oscars.

Tamara Jenkins' direction of "Private Life," which premiered on Netflix in October, has been widely celebrated. Not just by viewers, who became enamored of its tale of Paul Giamatti and Kathryn Hahn's married couple struggling to adopt, but it rightfully earned Jenkins nominations at the Gotham, Satellite and Independent Spirit awards.

Then there was Lynne Ramsay's idiosyncratic, edgy yet hypnotic approach to "You Were Never Really Here." Even though the pulpy crime thriller was propelled by one of the best performances of Joaquin Phoenix's illustrious career, the dominant creative voice of the film is that of the Scottish director — a feat most male directors who have worked with the actor have failed at.

But the most egregious oversight was for "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" director Marielle Heller. While the film has been nominated in the Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Adapted Screenplay categories, Heller deserves credit for bonding the terrific performances of Melissa McCarthy and Richard E. Grant to create one of the finest cinematic pairings in the last decade — all while making sure the script sang with the wit, drama and poignancy that most directors would have either under- or overcooked.

We'll see who ends up winning Best Director when the 91st Academy Awards unfold on Sunday. Hopefully the Academy will be much more open to potential female nominations at next year's show.

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2019 Oscar predictions you can take to the bank

Here are the films and stars we think will win big. **GREGORY WAKEMAN**

The 91st Academy Awards are still incredibly open. Over the last few weeks, the likes of "Roma," "The Favourite," "A Star Is Born," "Vice," "If Beale Street Could Talk," "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" and "BlacKkKlansman" have been jockeying for accolades during awards season. That's understandable, as they're widely considered to be the finest cinematic offerings of the last 12 months.

Which is why it is so puzzling that "Green Book" and "Bohemian Rhapsody" have somehow hung around, throwing up numerous shocks and surprises that now mean neither can be ruled out in any of the categories they're nominated in. All things considered, here are our picks for Sunday night.

BEST PICTURE
"Roma"
Why? Because, for a change, it really is the best film nominated, and Netflix's awards-season push appears to have worked a treat.

LEAD ACTOR
Bradley Cooper, "A Star Is Born"
Why? Having missed out on a Best Director nod, the voters will want to give the handsome star something. Also, it needs to be anyone but Malek.

Roma, written and directed by Alfonso Cuarón. CARLOS SOMONTE

LEAD ACTRESS
Glenn Close, "The Wife"
Why? Because she's glorious, always has been glorious and is particularly glorious in the underrated "The Wife."

SUPPORTING ACTOR
Mahershala Ali, "Green Book"
Why? Ali is the only man associated with the bizarrely popular "Green Book" who has any credibility left, which just might make him edge out Sam Elliott. It also helps that, as per usual, he puts in a stupendous performance in the crowd-pleasing but predicable '60s road trip film.

SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Regina King, "If Beale Street Could Talk"
Why? "If Beale Street Could Talk"'s lack of nominations is criminal, and King has been picking up the right gongs at the Golden Globes, Critics Choice, National Board Of Review, Satellite and New York, National, San Francisco, Toronto and Washington critics awards.

DIRECTOR
Spike Lee, "BlacKkKlansman"
Why? Alfonso Cuaron is the favorite and is probably more deserving. But the Academy loves to reward directors with storied careers — especially when that director should have won the gong years before, as is the case with Lee, who should have won it in 1989 with "Do the Right Thing."

ANIMATED FEATURE
"Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse," Bob Persichetti, Peter Ramsey, Rodney Rothman
Why? Because it is absolutely incredible. So much so that, for a change, it is a worthier winner than Pixar's entry.

Who'll take home the gold? GETTY IMAGES

ADAPTED SCREENPLAY
"Can You Ever Forgive Me?", Nicole Holofcener and Jeff Whitty
Why? Another gem that, despite its acting nominations, hasn't received the attention it deserves. The script for this dastardly comedy is littered with witticisms and lines that are just delicious.

ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY
"First Reformed," Paul Schrader
Why? Schrader should have won for "Taxi Driver" or "Raging Bull," both of which he wasn't even nominated for. "First Reformed" is also genuinely one of the best films of 2018, but it cruelly lost momentum during the awards season as it was released back in May.

CINEMATOGRAPHY
"Roma," Alfonso Cuaron
Why? Because "Roma" looks like a painting and a dream.

ORIGINAL SONG
"All the Stars" from "Black Panther" by Kendrick Lamar, SZA
Why? The Academy will want to pat themselves on the back for giving some love to "Black Panther."

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'It's time for designers to get upset' Brad Goreski

The fashion stylist and critic at E! Entertainment chatted with Metro.

LUZ LANCHEROS, MWN

GETTY

During awards season, many people become part of the so-called "Fashion Police," a trend to which E! Entertainment has significantly contributed. Commentaries about what celebs wear to the Golden Globes or the Oscars spark hot debates and even memes each year. With the 2019 Academy Awards right around the corner, there's no one better to chat with about all things red carpet than "Fashion Police" co-host Brad Goreski. Metro chatted with the 41-year-old ahead of the this weekend's Oscars.

After the #MeToo revolution, is it impossible to criticize fashion without body- or slut-shaming?
I think such criticism is not appropriate on the red carpet. When I talk about fashion, I use my expertise as someone who works as a stylist in Los Angeles. Criticism is not against the person, you have to be fun and informative.

Many actresses get mad over questions regarding what they are wearing.
I think social networks are doing a great job and when we see actors on the red carpet, their images are already invading all social media platforms. So, immediately everyone is talking about this. And there are portals such as The Fashion Court or Red Carpet Fashion Awards, as well as the media that start the coverage as soon as celebrities arrive. I think it's a new frontier. It's fine if people want to talk about what's happening. But what to share is the decision of the person who is being interviewed. However, we are in a technological era in which we have thousands of images and a lot of information. All the details of those who participate are available, whether they want to talk about it or not. And it takes pressure off the actors who do not want to focus on it.

The plus-size actresses also need designers.
I think there is a new point here. I think it's time for designers to move out of their comfort zone and become more inclusive. Expecting everyone to fit a size 2 or a size 0 is not acceptable or realistic. And now that many people fight for more diversity, it's time for designers to get upset.

What artists are you dying to see at Oscars 2019?
Lady Gaga, definitely. Jennifer Lawrence will be there. I hope to see her there, too. Charlize Theron will also attend the ceremony, and I also would love to see Lupita Nyong'o, who always gives us great moments on the red carpet, as well as Emma Stone.

Do you think we'll see the extravaganza of the Grammys at the 91st Academy Awards?
I think there was a lot of fashion at the Grammys, like Kasey Musgraves in Valentino, Cardi B in Thierry Mugler… And there was a lot of artistic inspiration, because in that event they had permission to do it and that's how they broke the mold. They had fashion pieces interesting enough to talk about them. I think that the pieces of haute couture Valentino, which have enough volume, as well as Chanel and his embroidery work, will be seen on the red carpet. I also see the return of a very classic elegance, as well as very Versace silhouettes, as we saw with Regina King at the BAFTAs. Now, I think it's important to be able to show different silhouettes and style during the awards season. I hope that at the final great event that the Oscars are, people who have been more risky and have bet more on color, will continue with that.

Kate
The Unexamined Life
By Rick Foster

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Fun things to do in Philly this month

23
Party for the Market
Feb. 23

Reading Terminal Market is hosting this fun-filled evening with six live bands, four open bars, plenty of food and more. **Feb. 23, 7:30-11:30 p.m., Reading Terminal Market, 51 N. 12th St., $95-$200**

23
Mummers Mardi Gras Festival
Feb. 23

This colorful and exciting event features plenty of booze, food trucks, music, a photo booth and much more. **Feb. 23, 1-5 p.m., 2300 Arena, 2300 S. Swanson St., $9-$24**

24
PFS 6th Annual Oscars Party
Feb. 24

Watch the magic of the Academy Awards with the Philadelphia Film Society, light bites, drinks and more. **Feb. 24, 5:30-11 p.m., Philadelphia Film Center, 1412 Chestnut St., $40-$250**

26
Science After Hours: Love & Lust Feb. 26
What fuels attraction regarding love and lust? Learn all about the subject through activities, drinks and more. **Feb. 26, 7-10 p.m., Franklin Institute, 222 N. 20th St., $20-$25**

29
Jonathan Van Ness Feb. 29
The "Queer Eye" star is bringing his stand-up to the City of Brotherly Love for one night only. **Feb. 29, 7-10 p.m., Tower Theater, S. 69th St. & Ludlow St., Upper Darby, $45-$55**

2
Philadelphia Craft Beer Festival
March 2

Sample over 200 brews from notable breweries such as Flying Fish, Goose Island and many more. **March 2, 1:30-5 p.m., The Navy Yard, 4747 S. Broad St. #120, $14-$50**

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

3
Philadelphia Flower Show
March 3

The annual extravaganza is filled with all things horticulture and floral with workshops, exhibits, tours and more. **March 2-10, times vary, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch St., $17-$38**

7
Michelle Wolf
March 7

The comedic superstar is coming to Philly to perform her stand-up over the course of two hilarious days. **March 7-8, times vary, Punch Line Philly, 33 E. Laurel St., $36**

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2
Philly Whiskey Walk March 2
Philadelphians will head to five different bars to sample delicious whiskeys either on the rocks, straight or with soda. **March 2, noon-10 p.m., Fox & Hound, 1501 Spruce St., $70-$138**

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9

Clüb 13
March 9

The Mütter Museum is transforming into Clüb 13 for a sultry party featuring food, drinks, circus performances and much more. **March 9, 7-11:30 p.m., Mütter Museum, 19 S. 22nd St., $181-$208**

9

The B.I.G. Exhibit
March 9

On the anniversary of his death, over 30 artists will be honoring Notorious B.I.G. with their moving works of art. **March 9, 6-9 p.m., Philly Art Collective, 253 N. 3rd St., free**

10

Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 10

Celebrate the green, beer-filled holiday by heading to JFK Boulevard and admiring the exciting parade. **March 10, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., JFK Boulevard, free**

13

Tokyo Police Club
March 13

This band has already made a huge impact on the indie-rock scene and now they are bringing their talent to Philly. **March 13, 8:30 p.m., Boot & Saddle, 1131 S. Broad St., $20**

16

Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Bar Crawl
March 16

Celebrate the greatest holiday of the year with a festive bar crawl full of beer, four-leaf clovers, luck and more. **March 16, 2-10 p.m., Howl at the Moon, 258 S. 15th St., $2-$27**

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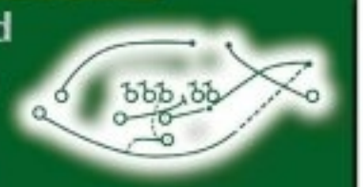
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Pat King
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READER WRITE-INS:

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PEOPLE!! We are alive! Every morning, I go to the Grumble page only to see people complain about what others wish they could. There is someone who wishes they could get to fly on a plane but I'm reading about someone who is mad because they don't have their overhead bin available. Some people wish they had a job, but I read people complaining about minor things they deal with during their commute! We have become soft as a society and grumble about every little thing. If we are to complain, let's focus on real issues like Flint still needing clean water, for example. Now they have something to complain about.

— **Omar,** *Metro US reader*

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— **Mike Conway,** *Metro US reader (and concerned server)*

ISTOCK

Please remember to send your Humbles to **humble@metro.us**. These submissions can be acts of gratitude, positivity or kindness that you have seen throughout the day.

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Aries Don't let emotions dictate your actions. Take a step back and consider your options.

Taurus Consider what you enjoy doing most and structure your resume to help you qualify for positions that excite you.

Gemini If someone hasn't been fair or nice to you, distance yourself from that person. Put your needs first.

Cancer Nurture an important relationship. Make special plans for two or find out what will make a loved one happy.

Leo Get involved in a activity that will help you blow off steam. It will save you from getting into a nasty discussion.

Virgo What you discover or learn will help you make a decision that will improve your life, relationships and health.

Libra Time is on your side, and gathering information will help you gain perspective on the best way to move forward.

Scorpio Don't let anger get the better of you. Channel your energy into self-improvement, travel or exercise.

Sagittarius Consider what you would like to be doing and what you are doing. Assess your skills, experience and knowledge.

Capricorn Stick close to home. Traveling or visiting relatives or people you don't always agree with will lead to unwanted changes.

Aquarius An investment or gift will put you in a better financial position, but could also lead to additional responsibilities.

Pisces Listen to what everyone has to say and be aware of what's accurate and what's false. Someone will make unrealistic promises that could end up being costly. EUGENIA LAST

One detained as protesters cause uproar at City Council

Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell was targeted over alleged abuses of power.

MICHAEL BUTLER
letters@metro.us

Abdul-Aliy Abdullah Muhammad is surrounded by authorities. ALL MICHAEL BUTLER IMAGES

A protest by the Black and Brown Workers Cooperative raised an uproar at City Hall on Thursday morning after members of the group disrupted the weekly City Council meeting, with one member being dragged out.

The Black and Brown Workers Cooperative is an activist group that has been advocating against councilmanic prerogative — allowing City Council members a vast amount of power over the usage of lands they preside over — and disrupted an event announcing Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell's re-election campaign on Wednesday night.

Councilwoman Blackwell had little to say about the Black and Brown Workers Cooperative or their protests. "For some reason, they've decided this is what they want to do," Blackwell told Metro. "I don't know who these folks are or what their agenda is. We're going to keep doing the job we're elected to do."

Following Wednesday night's events that saw Michael Youngblood, a colleague of Blackwell, caught on video asking activists, "You want to get raped?", members of the Black and Brown Workers Cooperative entered City Council's meeting room Thursday and began chanting in an effort to disrupt the meeting. Police quickly surrounded the group of protesters and a melee ensued that spilled into the building's hallway.

Black and Brown Workers Cooperative co-founder Abdul-Aliy Abdullah Muhammad, who refused to leave Council chambers, screamed as they were dragged out and wrestled to the ground by police officers on the hallway floor. (As of press time, Muhammad was reportedly still in police custody, but it was unclear if they would face charges.)

Taleah Taylor, a community leader in support of Blackwell, was vocal about her disdain for the cooperative's protest methods Thursday morning. "I'm still completely livid at how they attacked our elderly the other night at Jannie Blackwell's re-election campaign [event]," Taylor said. "It wasn't the fact that they were protesting. We were laughing at them protesting because they weren't making much noise and had no idea what they were talking about."

Dominique London is one of the co-founders of the Black and Brown Workers Cooperative and affirms that the group is working with the community in mind by challenging councilmanic prerogative. "Essentially, this is another example of people refusing to hear the truth about their beloved elected officials," London said. "They're refusing to hear the truth about the way the city has been operating.

"We had no problem with them protesting, but they went about things the wrong way."
Taleah Taylor

[Officials] have been abusing their power. We're challenging councilmanic prerogative. We're saying power needs to go back to the community because they can't seem to figure out how to keep tabs on land."

But Taylor believes the cooperative crossed the line when a Blackwell supporter was hurt. "We continued and they were getting mad that we were chanting, 'Jannie, Jannie,'" Taylor said. "The person in the video [of the incident] with the blue jacket hauled off and hit Ms. Ali in the face. That woman is 60 years old. You have no business disrespecting our elders. We had no problem with them protesting, but they went about things the wrong way."

London looks at recent examples of officials abusing their privileges as incentives to protest. "A judge [Rayford Means] was able to purchase city-owned property and flip it for three times what he paid for it. Why can't the city keep track of stuff like this? Another councilman, Kenyatta Johnson, was just put on blast for the same thing: giving out lots to [his] friends for the same prices and flipping them for four or five times what they paid. We're challenging this. You're not competent enough and fit to be put in charge of community land, and it needs to be given back to the people."

London wants people to understand why civil disobedience has become a primary option for raising awareness for the cooperative. "Jannie Blackwell isn't the only target," London said. "This is a campaign against a system and policies that aren't right. That's why we came to disrupt. We're not asking for a seat at the table because we've done that. We were approached first at Jannie Blackwell's event. Our comrade Aurica Hurst was approached by Michael Youngblood. Aurica was kicked and, after she defended herself, was jumped. We're not waiting anymore."

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City GOP names first black female mayoral candidate

Daphne Goggins remains the GOP's choice for mayor after acknowledging she receives federal disability benefits.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Daphne Goggins, a Republican ward leader from North Philadelphia who supports Donald Trump, was nominated earlier this month to be the Philly GOP's candidate for mayor to run against Jim Kenney in his re-election campaign.

But her candidacy became considerably more controversial after some fellow Republicans learned Goggins receives federal disability benefits.

"Supplemental Security Income [SSI] is for a recipient someone who has never had to work a day in their life and must not be able to perform any job in the national economy," said a letter from Philly GOP chair Michael Meehan sent to all local GOP ward leaders asking for a reconsideration of her nomination. "I think the mayor's job is one in the national economy and is a sticking point." (In fact, many SSI recipients have worked or do work, but qualify for the benefits due to earning a low income.)

But after a follow-up vote, Goggins, 56, emerged victorious and will remain the nominee. Goggins did not immediately respond to a request for comment, but in an interview with The Daily Caller, the right-wing news website, Goggins discussed her past and clarified that she gets Social Security Disability (SSD), not SSI, for mental health issues: "bipolar disorder, depression and anxiety," she said.

"Why should I be ashamed of having mental illness? I think that the voters of Philadelphia should get to decide. And I think they just might choose me," Goggins told The Daily Caller.

Goggins said in the interview she is also a breast cancer survivor and a diabetic. She added that if she is elected mayor, she will elect to stop receiving disability benefits.

"My disability will not preclude me from being a great mayor," she told The Daily Caller. "I look at ability and not the disability... I just believe that God chose me to run this campaign this year at this time in Philadelphia."

After Goggins was first nominated on Feb. 13, the first black woman to receive the Philly GOP's mayoral nomination, some ward leaders questioned her eligibility for the role, including Billy Ciancaglini and party chair Michael Meehan. Goggins' campaign blasted the move, writing on Daphne4Mayor on Facebook: " To attempt at this late date to try to call for a second vote would be against the by-laws and invite a legal battle. This has not ever been done before in the modern era, and will not be done now."

Ultimately, the Philly GOP agreed. At a meeting on Feb. 18, ward leaders voted 29-18 against reconsidering Goggins' nomination.

On her social media accounts, Goggins has expressed support for Donald Trump, trashed Kenney's signature soda tax, and criticized the DACA program for undocumented immigrant children as unconstitutional.

Philadelphia was, in the early 20th century, controlled by a political machine made up of Republicans (then the party of Lincoln), but since former Mayor Bernard Samuel left office in 1952 has been led and controlled almost exclusively by Democrats.

Voters registered as Democrats now outnumber Republicans 7-to-1 in Philadelphia. But the party nonetheless exists in the city, with elected officials from the Philly area including three Republican City Council members (David Oh, Al Taubenberger and Brian J. O'Neill), City Commissioner Al Schmidt and state Reps. Martina White and Thomas Murt.

"Chances of winning are just as good as chances of losing for me. So I'm going to say it's 50-50," Goggins told The Daily Caller.

Daphne Goggins of North Philly is the Philly Republican Party's nominee for mayor to run against Jim Kenney. PROVIDED

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Flyers must ignore hoopla as outdoor game critical to playoffs

The Flyers will be taking on the Penguins on Saturday night at Lincoln Financial Field.

ERIC GOLDSTEIN
sports@metro.us

Philadelphia Flyers left wing James van Riemsdyk (25). GETTY IMAGE

At the last sporting event to take place at Lincoln Financial Field, the Philadelphia Eagles were in a fight for their playoff lives. They needed a legendary and heroic final drive, led by Nick Foles, to outlast the Houston Texans on Jake Elliott's winning field goal as time expired in late December.

When the Philadelphia Flyers take the ice on Saturday night against the Penguins in the Stadium Series outdoor game at the Linc, the stakes will be almost just as high. The Penguins are one of the teams the Flyers are chasing for the final wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference.

So, amid all the hoopla, the pre-game ceremony, fake Art Museum steps and the Kenny Chesney concert scheduled after the first period, the actual game, and its outcome, are the top priorities in the Flyers dressing room.

Win, and they creep to within four points of the Columbus Blue Jackets for the final wild-card spot and six points of the Pittsburgh Penguins, who are in third place in the Metropolitan Division heading into the weekend.

Lose, and the Flyers watch as their odds of qualifying for the postseason dwindle with 20 games remaining.

"First and foremost, you want to enjoy [the outdoor game experience]," James van Riemsdyk told reporters during a media session last Friday at the Linc.

"They're a lot of fun and you don't know how many chances you'll get to play in these games. Obviously, you'll have a better memory of it if you win the game — and we need the points. We need to win."

Van Riemsdyk has played in five outdoor games, including last year with the Toronto Maple Leafs, in front of more than 100,000 at the University of Michigan, and with the Flyers in 2010 at Citizens Bank Park against the New York Rangers.

The game will mark the organization's fourth outdoor game and the second one they've hosted. They also played at Fenway Park against the Bruins in 2010 and at Heinz Field in 2017 vs. the Penguins. The Flyers lost each game, while the Penguins are 2-2 overall.

The Flyers, who traveled to Montreal on Thursday, missed out on a chance to make up ground against Pittsburgh two weeks ago with a disappointing 4-1 loss. Heading into that matchup on Feb. 11, the Flyers had won eight of their last nine games and trailed the Penguins by six points.

"We actually joked about it after the last game there. I'm like, 'I don't know what's going to go on the ice because it's going to be a battle out there,'" said forward Travis Konecny, who will play in his first NHL outdoor game and added he last played a game outside on a pond when he was 10.

"It's a big event for everyone to enjoy, but it might come down to one of the biggest games for us this year."

One very big, and large, advantage for the Flyers is they will have roughly 70,000 fans behind them. The total is significantly more than three times the average 19,000-plus fans who show up at the Wells Fargo Center.

"When you move to the NHL, you get that excitement of playing in front of 20,000 fans, let alone 70,000," said defenseman Travis Sanheim, who played most of his games last year with the Lehigh Valley Phantoms at the 8,500-seat PPL Center. "It's definitely going to be exciting."

2019 NFL Draft: Why Tyree Jackson makes sense for Eagles

With the Philadelphia Eagles moving on from veteran quarterback Nick Foles this offseason and essentially promoting Nate Sudfeld to the backup spot, one could make the case that they should draft a developmental quarterback somewhere in the 2019 NFL Draft.

Unlike the last two quarterback draft classes, which were impressive in their own ways, this year's class is not as top-heavy with talent and has a few questions that they need to answer in the next coming months.

Luckily for the Eagles, they don't have to use any of their early picks on a signal caller. But they are projected to have six picks in Day 3 of the NFL draft, which is prime territory for them to select a raw quarterback prospect.

Therefore, if Philadelphia decides to use one of their late-round selections on a quarterback, it should be for Tyree Jackson out of the University of Buffalo.

The 6-foot-7, 249-pound Jackson was a tremendous dual-threat quarterback at Buffalo and immediately became the apple of many draftniks' eyes this past season.

GETTY IMAGE

As a redshirt junior, Jackson had a breakout year, helping the Bulls to win 10 games. In 14 games, he completed 55.3 percent of his passes for 3,131 yards, 28 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. He flashed some mobility as well, accruing 161 rushing yards and seven touchdowns.

With those types of numbers and winning the 2018 MAC Offensive Player of the Year, one would think that he would undoubtedly declare for the draft.

However, Jackson reportedly entered into the transfer portal, opening the door for him to possibly play at a Power 5 school as a graduate transfer. But he ultimately decided to declare for the draft and got a chance to participate in the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Alabama, last month.

While his measurements stood out, the Michigan native has a lot of intriguing skills that make him an interesting developmental quarterback to try to mold.

One of those intriguing skills that will immediately stand out is his arm talent. Jackson has a cannon for an arm that might remind you of current Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen, Cardale Jones or Brandon Bridge.

With his size and mobility, Jackson can easily make those 50-yard passes. However, his deep passing accuracy is something that he will need to work on at the next level.

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

GETTY IMAGES

Legendary Las Vegas sportsbook director Johnny Avello is right at home with DraftKings. Avello, who was the sportsbook director at Wynn Casino for 13 years, joined up with DraftKings Sportsbook late last year and is now part of the brain trust bringing innovation to the sports betting world.

DraftKings Sportsbook co-founders Jason Robins and Matt Kalish have told MetroBet multiple times over the past few months that DK is focused on changing the betting game through innovation. That strategy is certainly working so far in New Jersey as DK's sportsbook app has been the most successful legal online sports betting venture, monetarily, since betting was legalized in the state last summer.

A lot of this innovation includes giving prospective sports bettors options to bet on events that they might not have even known you can bet on. This includes Sunday's Oscars.

"I've been in the industry for 40 years and I've been offering Oscars odds for 25 years," Avello told MetroBet in an exclusive interview. "But we've never gotten a chance to take actual wagers on it. For the first time, the gaming board has given us permission to do so and I'm really excited about that. It's great to tie in the entertainment aspect."

Avello anticipates a lot of late bets coming in on the Oscars this Sunday, much like a Sunday night NFL game.

"As we get closer to the event, we might see a flurry," Avello told MetroBet. "A lot of events are that way. Even the Super Bowl we'll put up the line a couple weeks ahead of time, but you won't see the bigger bets until Sunday."

DraftKings Sportsbook will be taking wagers on 16 Academy Awards categories this weekend.

"The major six categories are where the concentration will be, and there's some strong favorites," Avello said. "Though there's odds on some categories that most people won't be interested in, like sound editing, make-up and hair styling. Best Foreign Language Film is a slam dunk. For Best Picture we could see an upset there."

Avello anticipates that DraftKings Sportsbook will take wagers on many non-sporting events moving forward.

"We'll look at it all — Emmys, Tonys... we can look at 'American Idol' or 'Dancing with the Stars,'" Avello said. "You've got to be careful with shows like 'The Bachelor,' though. Shows like that were filmed and were over three months ago."

You can get a free $20 bet on the Oscars right now by going to **Metro.us/Oscars20**.

TWEET OF THE DAY

Big Cat
@BarstoolBigCat

Yup. Dicky V said an 'A' game from Duke beats everyone this year. The title has been decided. Time for the draft

How to bet on sports: Introduction to basic sports betting

One of the more exciting aspects of now having legal sports betting in Philadelphia is that many people will be betting on games for the first time. Having a few dollars riding on the Birds or the Phillies or that random Monday Night Football game just makes things that much more fun. For you first-timers out there, here is some sports betting lingo and basic terminology that will have you ready to win big!

MATT BURKE

Cover

When you beat the spread by the required number of points. If you pick the favorite in the game, you "cover the spread" when you win by more than the spread. If you pick the underdog, you win by winning outright or by losing than less than the spread. For example, if the Eagles are four-point favorites and win by seven, they "cover the spread."

In-game bet

When you bet on a game while the game is being played.

ATS

(Against the Spread) Instead of a team's win-loss record, it refers to how well a certain team has done in terms of the spread over the course of their season. For instance, the Eagles are 5-1 against the spread in their last six games.

Parlay

When you bet on multiple teams in one bet. To win, you have to have all the teams you bet on cover the spread. Payouts can increase dramatically if you hit on a parlay.

Moneyline

A bet where you only need the team you bet on to win regardless of the spread.

Hedging

When you bet the opposite of your original bet to minimize a potential loss.

Push

When the result of the game lands on the betting number. You don't win or lose, you simply get your money back.

Futures

A bet based on how well a certain team does for the whole season. For instance, the Phillies have 14/1 odds of winning the 2019 World Series.

The spread

The number of points a certain team is favored by. For instance, the Eagles are four-point favorites over the Cowboys. The spread is four points.

Go to Metro.us/Oscars20 for a free bet

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Weekend tickets: What are Sixers without Embiid?

Plus, Flyers and college basketball picks.

ANTHONY GARGANO

Anthony Gargano is a sports radio host on @97.5TheFanatic in Philadelphia and on FOX Sports Radio.

The "Phila Killa Five" finally return after an All-Star break that felt more like a summer break — but one left knee joint presents one big buzzkill.

The final 24 games for the Sixers should be about integrating Tobias Harris into a lineup that already needed to integrate Jimmy Butler — a sort of chemistry run for the playoffs.

But the left knee of Joel Embiid has had an unfortunate, familiar flare-up and the team says he'll miss at least a week.

With his brilliant but somewhat fragile history, Embiid's status for the week is every bit a hold-your-breath moment. For the Sixers to go deep into the playoffs it is paramount for this group to learn to play with one another. For Harris to be the effective stretch-four space-maker; for Butler to be the wing drive/shoot component next to Ben Simmons' facilitating; and for J.J. Reddick to drain 3-point bombs, EMBIID HAS TO BE ON THE FLOOR.

The offense is built for everything to flow around Embiid and through him, so his presence is mandatory for cohesiveness.

Without Embiid, a great rim protector, the Sixers also lose their biggest defensive piece. It will be interesting to see how they fare in the coming games: Saturday against the Blazers, then at New Orleans and at Oklahoma City. Be sure to mark on your calendars for a March 2 game against the Warriors, primetime in Philly, as well.

Without Embiid in the lineup, take a look at the Sixers going over the total. Not only do they lose on the defensive end, but the offense is sped up without the big man on the floor.

Even with Jusuf Nurkic potentially running amuck on Saturday, I still like the Sixers to win, especially with the game being at 1 p.m. Eastern. It's a distinct body clock disadvantage for Portland.

LAST WEEK: 4-2

GETTY IMAGES

THE GOOD

We nailed both sides of the All-Star game with Team LeBron and the over — a cigar piece. We also hit the Flyers over the Red Wings and forecast Villanova's loss to Saint John's.

THE BAD

We missed out on the skill competitions with our long-shot plays and took a bad header with Kentucky upending Tennessee.

THIS WEEK

In addition to the Sixers' overs and Saturday's game against Portland, take a look at the Flyers in the outdoor Winter Classic against the Penguins at Lincoln Financial Field.

In college basketball, we like Louisville to bounce back against Virginia after its loss to Syracuse; Tennessee to win at Baton Rouge, Florida State at North Carolina with the Heels in a letdown spot; and Texas Tech at home against Kansas.

Also, take a look at Florida State as a futures bet to make the Final Four. A veteran team that plays defense? I'm thinking the 'Noles can make another impressive run in the tourney.

Sports on TV Highlights

7:00 pm	**NBA Basketball** San Antonio Spurs vs. Toronto Raptors	ESPN
7:00 pm	**Men's CBB** Kent State Golden Flashes vs. Buffalo Bulls	ESPN 2
7:30 pm	**NHL Hockey** Colorado Avalanche vs. Chicago Blackhawks	ESPN+
8:00 pm	**Men's CBB** Columbia Lions vs. Penn Quakers	ESPN+
9:00 pm	**Men's CBB** Indiana Hoosiers at Iowa Hawkeyes	FOX SPORTS 1
9:30 pm	**NBA Basketball** Utah Jazz vs. Oklahoma City Thunder	ESPN

Sixers–Blazers
Saturday betting preview

The Sixers are back in action Saturday afternoon with a matinee at home against Portland (1 p.m., NBC Sports Philadelphia).

The Trail Blazers are in the same boat as the Sixers as far as their respective conference standings go. Portland is middling around the West standings, currently owning the No. 4 seed by a game. The Sixers are also lurking around the 3-5 seed range.

Betting on the NBA after the All-Star break can be difficult as a lot of pre-break momentum can be halted. For instance, last year the Sixers won five straight before the lay-off. After the break, however, they had a horrible time putting away the lowly Bulls, winning by just a point on a Thursday night. The Sixers then proceeded to lose two out of their next three.

Conversely, the Blazers actually found their rhythm after the All-Star break last year as they rattled off 12 straight wins.

Center Jusuf Nurkic should have a feast on the glass on Saturday with Embiid out, and Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum should be able to go toe-to-toe with Ben Simmons and Jimmy Butler. McCollum and company ran the Sixers off the floor in their only other meeting this season on Dec. 30 as the 2-guard pumped in a game-high 35 points. It should be noted that Embiid also missed that game due to left knee soreness.

That said, the Blazers are just 10-15 against the spread on the road this season while the Sixers are 23-7 at home ATS. Expect Philly to rise to the occasion despite the absence of Embiid.

The play: Sixers spread

MATT BURKE

VSiN DAILY LINE

MEN'S CBB

COLUMBIA VS. PENN -10

INDIANA VS. IOWA -8

KENT STATE VS. BUFFALO -15.5

NBA

SAN ANTONIO SPURS VS. TORONTO RAPTORS -7.5

UTAH JAZZ VS. OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER -3.5

MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES -7 VS. NEW YORK KNICKS

NHL

COLORADO AVALANCHE +165 VS. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS -145

Three AAF players

Through the first two weeks of the AAF season, there have been many players who are showing that they deserve another shot in the NFL.

JOVAN ALFORD
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Rashad Ross is gaining attention with the Arizona Hotshots. GETTY IMAGES

If you have not had a chance to check out the first two weeks of the Alliance of American Football (AAF), then you are missing out on some quality football.

The AAF is a new football league comprised of eight teams, founded by both Charlie Ebersol and Bill Polian. The league features a lot of former NFL and college football coaches along with former players, who are looking to get back into the league.

Speaking of the NFL, various team executives are taking notice of AAF and its ability to become a development/minor league for the NFL. One team, who has a lot of players playing in the Alliance and should maybe sign a few of these guys is the Philadelphia Eagles.

Even though the Eagles are set at a majority of positions for next season, they could use the depth at other spots. The AAF is a great league to find some diamonds in the rough and fill out their 90-man roster.

Therefore, through two weeks of action, who should the Eagles have on their radar?

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who should be on the Eagles' radar

1. RASHAD ROSS, WR, ARIZONA HOTSHOTS

The 29-year-old Ross has been one of the best wide receivers thus far in the AAF. Through two games, he leads the league in receiving touchdowns (3) and has 170 receiving yards on nine catches.

The 6-foot, 180-pound wideout can stretch the field, which was on full display in Week 1 against the Salt Lake City Stallions and something the Eagles are looking for this offseason. Ross can also play special teams too, as he is handling punt return duties with the Hotshots.

Before joining the AAF, Ross spent time with the Washington Redskins in 2015-16. He also was in training camp with the Arizona Cardinals last summer, after signing a futures deal earlier in the year.

If Ross can continue to dominate the competition in the AAF, there is no reason why he cannot get a tryout in the NFL.

Charles Johnson of the Orlando Apollos is quickly becoming one of the top wide receivers in the AAF. GETTY IMAGES

2. CHARLES JOHNSON, WR, ORLANDO APOLLOS

Sticking with the theme of wide receivers, Johnson had himself a field day against the San Antonio Commanders last Sunday. The former Minnesota Vikings wideout dominated the Commanders' secondary to the tune of seven receptions (10 targets) for 192 yards and a touchdown.

Johnson showed the ability to stretch the field in head coach Steve Spurrier's spread offense, blowing by former Eagles cornerback De'Vante Bausby for a huge 50-yard passing play in the second quarter.

Later in the second quarter, he hit Commanders cornerback Zack Sanchez with a nasty double-move for a touchdown. The 29-year-old wide receiver leads the AAF in receiving yards (252) and receptions (11).

Last summer, Johnson was with the New York Jets in the preseason but did not make the final roster. Before playing with the Jets, the former seventh-round pick spent time with the Carolina Panthers, Cleveland Browns, and Green Bay Packers.

3. KARTER SCHULT, DE, SALT LAKE CITY STALLIONS

Even though the Stallions could not come away with the victory against the Birmingham Iron last weekend, Schult made his presence felt the entire game. The former University of Northern Iowa product wreaked havoc and found himself in the Iron's backfield, sacking standout quarterback Luiz Perez twice.

The 6-foot-3, 259-pound defensive end might not blow you away with his speed, but he has good technique and strength to shed blocks to get to the quarterback.

Through two weeks, Schult leads the league in sacks with three. Before landing in the AAF, he was in training camp last summer with the Carolina Panthers, joined the Browns for training camp in 2017, and was a standout at the FCS level with UNI.

In college, Schult won the Buck Buchanan Award in 2016, which goes to the best defensive player in FCS. He had 56 tackles for loss (school record), 35.5 sacks, and 20 quarterback hurries.

With that being said, the Eagles could use some extra depth on the defensive line, heading into next season. Schult would be a nice rotational defensive end to plug in on obvious passing downs.

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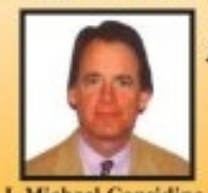
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Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, December term, 2018, No. 3277. Notice is hereby given that on December 31, 2018, the petition of: Ciani M. Johnson, was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to: Ciani M. Battle. The Court has fixed court date March 1, 2019, at 10:30AM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Phila., PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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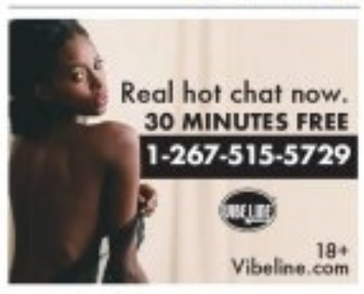

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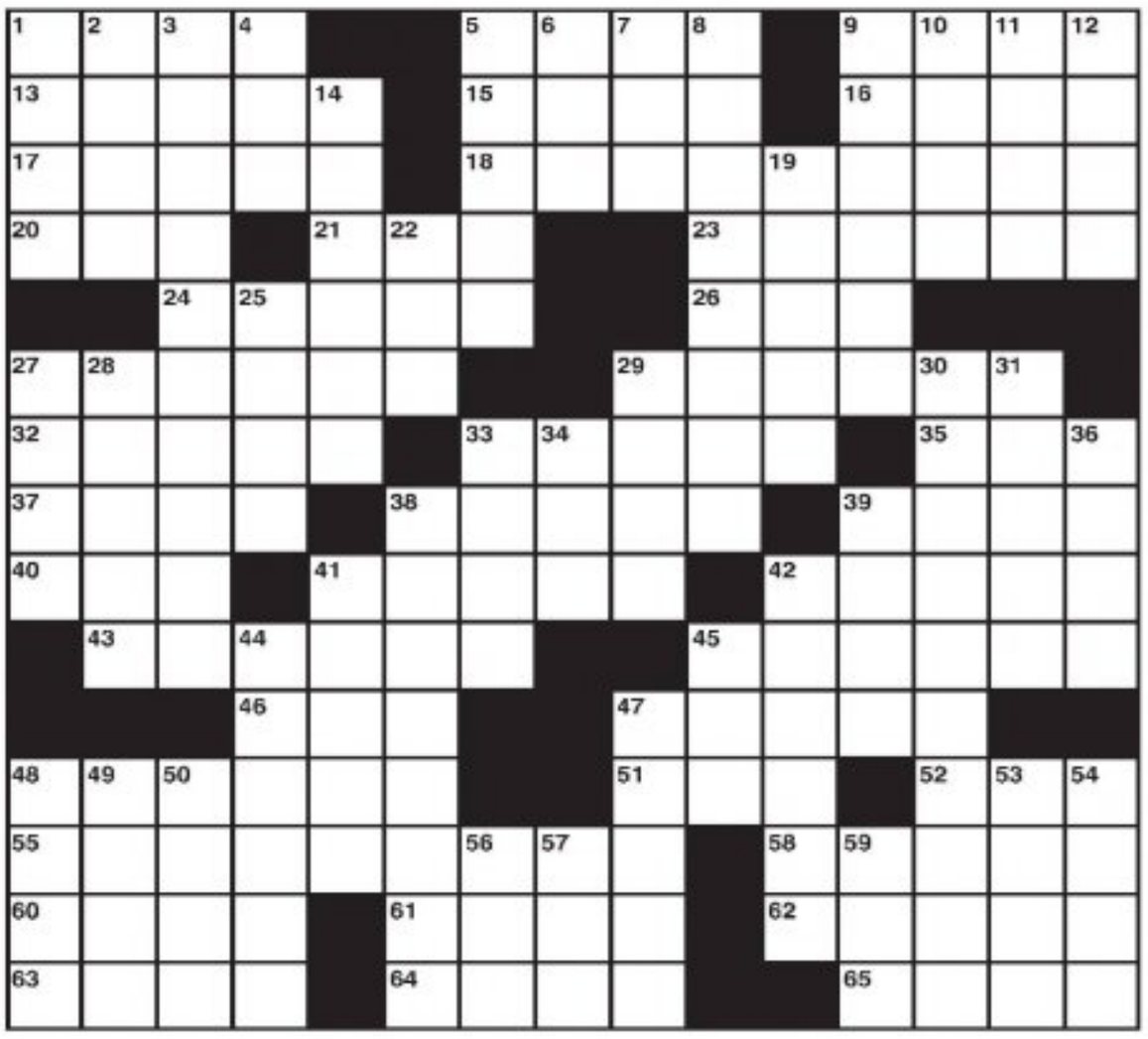

ACROSS
1 Obey
5 Exhibit
9 Not at all ruddy
13 Wear away
15 Juicy fruit
16 "Queen for __" of old TV
17 Immigrates
18 Weave together
20 __ rampage; rushing wildly about
21 Corolla or Civic
23 __ up; joined forces
24 Weight revealer
26 Popular pet
27 Summarizes
29 Tears to bits
32 Came up
33 Tribal pole
35 Corncob
37 Flying insect
38 __ up; accumulated
39 Primary color
40 Greek letter
41 Wool bearer
42 Bit of a jigsaw puzzle
43 Spring celebration
45 Came in second
46 Split __ soup
47 Fight like a knight
48 Reverberates
51 Commercials
52 "Much __ About Nothing"
55 Quack
58 Flowed back
60 Metal corrosion
61 Slangy refusal
62 Dinner course
63 Thurman & others
64 Golf shop purchase
65 Cincinnati team

DOWN
1 Short note
2 Magnet material
3 Canadian province
4 Ike's monogram
5 Steeple
6 Female bird
7 Cereal grain
8 Miserable
9 Roof of the mouth
10 Actor Sandler
11 Mantilla fabric
12 Open-__; watchful
14 Flee
19 Provide with fresh weapons
22 Gore & his dad
25 Money
27 Skateboarder's incline
28 Uneven
29 Staircase piece
30 Tasty
31 Spaghetti topper
33 Bleachers level
34 Bullring cheer
36 Woodwind instrument
38 Game bird
39 Unfair slant
41 Iron alloy
42 Adders' signs
44 Soccer & softball
45 Group of whales
47 Seymour & Pauley
48 Neutral color
49 Buddy
50 __ crush on; is smitten with
53 Deceased
54 Likelihood
56 Part of a sock
57 As hairy as an __
59 Saloon

BY TCA

metro.us/wordsearch

A	F	T	E	R	R	C	P	M	V
E	N	R	E	V	E	Y	K	Z	L
X	I	G	G	O	G	Q	I	B	Y
F	R	T	E	N	N	X	S	A	T
C	H	A	R	L	I	E	S	C	I
X	D	A	T	E	S	D	E	T	P
B	E	D	K	S	G	T	D	R	I
B	A	R	R	Y	M	O	R	E	H
M	A	E	R	C	S	S	J	S	W
F	V	W	X	N	F	I	R	S	T

Actress
After
Angels
Barrymore
Charlie's
Dates
Drew
Kissed
Ever
First
Gertie
Scream
Singer
Wedding
Whip It

metro.us/wander

Category: Film Fusion

	J	C	P	
R	U	I	A	R
A	S	S	S	K
O	I	T	A	N
N	E	A	R	D
	R	C	E	

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					3			4
7	1		9					3
	4		5			2		1
	8		7		6	5		
5				9				8
		2	1		5		7	
3		4			9		2	
2					1		3	5
1			3					

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R	E	A	D		O	L	I	V	E		A	L	S	O
S	A	V	E		G	A	V	E	L		B	O	A	S
	R	E	C	L	I	N	E	R	S		O	W	N	S
			L	I	E	D			H	O	T			
O	C	E	A	N	S		C	A	M	I	S	O	L	E
S	H	A	R	K		T	R	I	A	L		R	O	B
C	A	R	E		M	O	U	R	N		W	A	C	O
A	F	T		L	E	E	D	S		S	A	T	A	N
R	E	H	E	A	R	S	E		B	A	R	E	L	Y
			N	B	C			C	A	L	F			
F	L	E	A		I	M	P	O	R	T	A	N	T	
L	O	A	M		F	E	A	S	T		R	E	A	R
O	G	R	E		U	N	I	T	E		E	A	C	H
W	E	L	L		L	U	N	A	R			T	K	O

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